

greater doubts. One hundred scoleces of *Cœnurus* were given to a young dog taken from its mother and carefully isolated. Twenty days afterwards its intestine contained 237 *Tæniæ*, the size of which varied from 4 to 60 millimetres. Other experiments afforded absolutely negative results.

The authors also made experiments as to the production of the *Cœnurus* in the Sheep by the administration of proglottides of *Tænia serrata*. To each of two young sheep they administered ten segments of *Tænia serrata*, all containing a number of perfectly mature eggs, in which the embryo, furnished with its hooks, could be distinguished. These sheep never presented any of the phenomena of staggers, which are stated to occur from the fifteenth to the twentieth day after administration. Not to be in too great a hurry, they were kept for four months. Then, although they appeared perfectly healthy, they were killed in order to allow the examination of the brains: no trace of *Cœnurus* could be detected. From this, and considering the doubts arising when the assertions of experimentalists are attentively examined, the authors do not hesitate to affirm that the progeny of the *Tænia* of the Dog never arrives at the brain of the Sheep.

Whilst denying the necessary transmission of the Entozoa as described by most modern zoologists, the authors recur to the old notion that the Cystic worms are produced from germs of *Tæniæ* which have found their way into places not fitted for them.—*Comptes Rendus*, May 5, 1862, p. 958.

On the Early Stages of Microdon mutabilis.

By M. ELDIRT.

An enigmatical animal, which appears to be a Mollusk, and yet, on closer examination, exhibits many characters foreign to the Mollusca, and presents few points for comparison with other animals, was known to some of the older zoologists, such as Aldrovandus, but was first described and figured by Von Heyden in 1823. At p. 1247 of the 'Isis' for that year is Von Heyden's memoir "Ueber ein sonderbar gestaltetes Thierchen," which he found in 1818 at a considerable elevation on the Hoche Mountain, under the moist bark of an oak-stump standing near water. Only one example could be found. Von Heyden thought that it was not a larva, but rather a Mollusk which would prove a new and very remarkable genus. In the following year Spix described, before the Academy of Sciences in Munich, a new genus of terrestrial Mollusca to which he gave the name of *Scutelligera Amerlandia*, because he found it at Amerland, on the Stahrenberg Lake, in the interior of old rotten oak- and pine-stumps still rooted in the ground, always in company with the Hercules and Red Ants ('Hesperus,' No. 295). In 1825, Von Heyden called attention, in the 'Isis,' to the great resemblance between the animals described by Spix and himself, but expresses his opinion

that their characters are those of two nearly allied but distinct genera. For his animal he proposes the name of *Parmula cocciformis*. In 1832, Schlotthauber discovered the animal described by Spix in the neighbourhood of Göttingen, and, following its development, found it to be the larva of *Microdon mutabilis*. In 1839 he communicated to the Meeting of Naturalists in Pymont a full description of the metamorphoses of this species, which he proposed publishing; but it seems never to have been printed.

The author, in 1844, met with bodies resembling coffee-beans, with a reticulated surface, on the inside of the bark of oak-stumps in the Neuhauser Forest, from which he obtained specimens of *Microdon mutabilis*. He afterwards found single pupæ in similar stumps inhabited by ants, and finally, also a larva, which, however, soon died. M. Sauter has also met with these larvæ; and Dr. Hensche, whilst residing at Kreuth, found amongst earth-dwelling ants three Mollusk-like animals, which he preserved in spirits, and which turned out to be larvæ of *Microdon*.

As the *Microdon mutabilis* is a British species, it might interest some of our entomologists to look out for the singular larva here referred to, as the nature of its metamorphosis, and especially its relation to the ants with which it seems to be always associated, appear to be by no means cleared up.—*Schriften der Königl. phys.-ökon. Gesellschaft zu Königsberg*, 1862, *Sitzungsberichte*, p. 9.

On a New Species of Bird of the Genus Lipaugus of Boié.

By P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S.

LIPAUGUS SUBALARIS.

Viridescenti-olivaceus, dorso imo, ventre et cauda cinerascens, cauda fere tota cinerea; crisso albicante; pilei semicristati plumis interne nigris: gutturis et pectoris plumarum scapis conspicue flavicanti-albis: plumis axillaribus et subalaribus late citrino-flavis: alis fusco-nigricantibus, extus dorso concoloribus: rostro et pedibus nigris.

Hab. In rep. Æquatoriana, ad ripas fl. Napo.

This *Lipaugus* will be easily recognized by the beautiful bright yellow colour of the axillaries and under wing-coverts and the slightly crested head, the feathers of which are black underneath. In structure it appears to be a member of the group *Aulia*: the outer and middle toes being completely united to the end of the second phalange, and the form otherwise resembling that of *Lipaugus hypopyrrhus*. The single example in the collection of the British Museum, acquired in 1857, is labelled "Rio Napo."—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* May 28, 1861.